Widening of Highways in Pauri Garhwal

1778. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of houses have been collapsed in Pauri Garhwal due to widening of highway from Pabau-Bishald Link Road;

(b) if so, the details of houses collapsed in above district during the last three years and the compensation paid to the victims at Bishald;

(c) if no compensation has been paid, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of representations received from the victims in this regard and by when Government propose to compensate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (d) This Ministry is mainly responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. Pabau-Bishald Link Road in Pauri Garhwal District is not a part of National Highway. Also, this road has not been sanctioned under any centrally sponsored scheme of this Ministry. As per information received from Government of Uttaranchal, no house has collapsed due to widening of the road within the last three years and hence no compensation was paid. Only one representation has been received by the State Government, which is due to natural calamity.

Restoring exemption limit for SSIs

1779.SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Finance Ministry agreed to restore the exemption limit to Rs. 1 crore for the small scale sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has taken up the issue with the Finance Ministry for giving sales tax relief of electronic toys to the SSI sector; and

(d) if so, Finance Ministry's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the Comprehensive Policy Package announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 30.08.2000, the General SSI Excise Exemption limit was enhanced from Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 1 crore. The same limit is continuing since 1st September, 2000.